

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-17

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CI, PFOR, OAS, US

SUBJECT: VISION ARTICLE ON THE OAS

REF: STATE 40527

1. ALEJANDRO MAGNET , FORMER AMBASSADOR TO OAS UNDER FREI, COMMENTS IN HIS WEEKLY ERCILLA COLUMN (MAR 14 ISSUE) ON THE ROGERS VISION ARTICLE. AFTER IDENTIFYING ROGERS AS FORMER ASSISTANT COORDINATOR ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS WHO RESIGNED " DISILLUSIONED" IN 1965 BUT HAS MAINTAINED INTEREST IN LATAM AFFAIRS, HE REVIEWS MAIN POINTS ROGERS' IDEAS GENERALLY IN SAME MANNER AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL. INFORMAL TRANSLATION MAGNET' S COMMENTS FOLLOWS BELOW.

2. BEGIN QUTOE. THERE IS NOT THE SLIGHTEST REASON TO DOUBT THE GOOD FAITH WITH WHICH WILLIAM ROGERS HAS PROPOSED AN IDEA (US WITHDRAWAL FROM OAS) WHICH LATIN AMERICAN NATIONALISTS WILL GRATEFULLY RECEIVE, AS THEY HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO CARRY OUT THE IDEA BY MEANS OF STRENGTHENING CECLA ESPECIALLY SINCE THE ISSUANCE OF THE LATIN AMERICAN CONSENSUS OF VENIA DEL MAR (1969). BUT THIS IDEA, CARRIED OUT AT THE MOMENT WHICH WILL ABOVE ALL SERVE US INTERESTS BEST AND APPLIED WITH A MINIMUM OF " MACHIAVELLIANISM" OR PERHAPS " METTERNICHISM," COULD BECOME AN INSTRUMENT OF DOMINATION MUCH MORE UNCONTROLLED AND UNCONTROLLABLE THAN IS THE OAS OF TODAY.

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3. THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE U. S. FROM THE REGIONAL ORGANIZATION WILL NOT MAKE THE U. S. DISAPPEAR FROM THE MAP, ABOVE ALL THE MAP OF THE CARRIBEAN AND CENTRAL AMERICA INCLUDING PANAMA. NEITHER WILL IT ELIMINATE ITS ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL POWER FROM THE INTERAMERICAN SCENE. NOW WOULD IT ALL OF A SUDDEN MATURE THE POLITICAL CONSCIENCE OF THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES NOR, CORRELATIVELY, THEIR SOLIDARITY; RATHER THERE IS MORE REASON TO BELIEVE THE CONTRARY. ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS UNBELIEVABLE, THE U. S. HAS NOT BEEN CECLA' S WORST ENEMY.

4. ONE ARRIVES RATHER AT THE CONCLUSION THAT THE GOAL OF ESTABLISHING AN OLAS IS DESIRABLE, BUT FOR IT REALLY TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF LATIN AMERICA IT PERHAPS IS WORTH WAITING FOR THIS CONTINENT RATHER THAN THE U. S. TO WITHDRAW FROM THE OAS. THE SEQUENCE OF THE STEPS IN THIS CASE ALTERS THE END PRODUCT. END QUOTE.

5. COMMENT. MAGNET' S POINT, ASIDE FROM ADVOCATING THAT LA TAKE INITIATIVE IN THIS REGARD, APPEARS TO BE THAT DESPITE SOME SOLIDARITY EFFORTS LA IS STILL INSUFFICIENTLY UNITED TO PROFIT FROM U. S. WITHDRAWAL FROM OAS.
DAVIS

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